

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 70) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The text of the resolution is located in Today's RECORD under "Statements on Submitted Resolutions.")

AUTHORIZING PRINTING OF UPDATED VERSION OF "BLACK AMERICANS IN CONGRESS"

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules Committee be discharged from the consideration of H. Con. Res. 43 and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 43) authorizing the printing of a revised and updated version of the House document entitled "Black Americans in Congress, 1870-1989."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, all with no intervening action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 43) was agreed to.

APPOINTMENTS

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 100-696, appoints the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) as a member of the United States Capitol Preservation Commission.

The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 94-118, reappoints the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) to the Japan-United States Friendship Commission.

AUTHORITY TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or inter-parliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

STAR PRINT—S. 525

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a star print of

S. 525 be made with the changes that are at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE 1944 DEPORTATION OF THE CHECHEN PEOPLE

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of calendar No. 27, S. Res. 27.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 27) to express the sense of the Senate regarding the 1944 deportation of the Chechen people to central Asia, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and finally, that any statements appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 27) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 27

Whereas for more than 200 years, the Chechen people have resisted the efforts of the Russian government to drive them from their land and to deny them their own culture;

Whereas beginning on February 23, 1944, nearly 500,000 Chechen civilians from the northern Caucasus were arrested en masse and forced onto trains for deportation to central Asia;

Whereas tens of thousands of Chechens, mainly women, children, and the elderly, died en route to central Asia;

Whereas mass killings and the use of poisons against the Chechen people accompanied the deportation;

Whereas the Chechen deportees were not given food, housing, or medical attention upon their arrival in central Asia;

Whereas the Soviet Union actively attempted to suppress expressions of Chechen culture, including language, architecture, literature, music, and familial relations during the exile of the Chechen people;

Whereas it is generally accepted that more than one-third of the Chechen population died in transit during the deportation or while living in exile in central Asia;

Whereas the deportation order was not repealed until 1957;

Whereas the Chechens who returned to Chechnya found their homes and land taken over by new residents who violently opposed the Chechen return; and

Whereas neither the Soviet Union, nor its successor, the Russian Federation, has ever accepted full responsibility for the brutalities inflicted upon the Chechen people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the United States should commemorate the 57th anniversary of the brutal deportation of the Chechen people from their native land;

(2) the current war in Chechnya should be viewed within the historical context of repeated abuses suffered by the Chechen people at the hands of the Russian state;

(3) the United States Government should make every effort to alleviate the suffering of the Chechen people; and

(4) it is in the interests of the United States, the Russian Federation, Chechnya, and the international community to find an immediate, peaceful, and political solution to the war in Chechnya.

URGING THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF KOSOVAR ALBANIANS WRONGFULLY IMPRISONED

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 28, S. Res. 60.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 60) urging the immediate release of Kosovar Albanians wrongfully imprisoned in Serbia, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 60) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 60

Whereas the Military-Technical Agreement Between the International Security Force ("KFOR") and the Governments of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia (concluded June 9, 1999) ended the war in Kosovo;

Whereas in June 1999, the armed forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (in this resolution referred to as the "FRY") and the police units of Serbia, as they withdrew from Kosovo, transferred approximately 1,900 ethnic Albanians between the ages of 13 and 73 from prisons in Kosovo to Serbian prisons;

Whereas some ethnic Albanian prisoners that were tried in Serbia were convicted on false charges of terrorism, as in the case of Dr. Flora Brovina;

Whereas the Serbian prison directors at Pozarevac prison stated that of 600 ethnic Albanian prisoners that arrived in June 1999, 530 had no court documentation of any kind;

Whereas 640 of the imprisoned Kosovar Albanians were released after being formally indicted and sentenced to terms that matched the time already spent in prison;

Whereas representatives of the FRY government received thousands of dollars in ransom payments from Albanian families for the release of prisoners;